

## 3.5 Cartesian products

### Definition 3.5.1 (Ordered pair).

If  $x$  and  $y$  are any objects (possibly equal), we define the ordered pair  $(x, y)$  to be a new object, consisting of  $x$  as its first component and  $y$  as its second component. Two ordered pairs  $(x, y)$  and  $(x', y')$  are considered equal if and only if both their components match, i.e.

$$(x, y) = (x', y') \iff (x = x' \text{ and } y = y').$$

### Definition 3.5.4 (Cartesian product).

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are sets, then we define the Cartesian product  $X \times Y$  to be the collection of ordered pairs, whose first component lies in  $X$  and second component lies in  $Y$ , thus

$$X \times Y = \{(x, y) : x \in X, y \in Y\}$$

or equivalently

$$a \in (X \times Y) \iff (a = (x, y) \text{ for some } x \in X \text{ and } y \in Y).$$

### Definition 3.5.7 (Ordered $n$ -tuple and $n$ -fold Cartesian product).

Let  $n$  be a natural number. An ordered  $n$ -tuple  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  (also denoted  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ) is a collection of objects  $x_i$ , one for every natural number  $i$  between 1 and  $n$ ; we refer to  $x_i$  as the  $i^{\text{th}}$  component of the ordered  $n$ -tuple. Two ordered  $n$ -tuples  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  and  $(y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  are said to be equal iff  $x_i = y_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . If  $(X_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  is an ordered  $n$ -tuple of sets, we define their Cartesian product  $\prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} X_i$  (also denoted  $\prod_{i=1}^n X_i$  or  $X_1 \times \dots \times X_n$ ) by

$$\prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} X_i := \{(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} : x_i \in X_i \text{ for all } 1 \leq i \leq n\}.$$

**Lemma 3.5.12 (Finite choice).**

Let  $n \geq 1$  be a natural number, and for each natural number  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , let  $X_i$  be a non-empty set. Then there exists an  $n$ -tuple  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  such that  $x_i \in X_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . In other words, if each  $X_i$  is non-empty, then the set  $\prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} X_i$  is also non-empty.

**Exercises****Exercise 3.5.1**

Suppose we define the ordered pair  $(x, y)$  for any objects  $x$  and  $y$  by the formula  $(x, y) := \{\{x\}, \{x, y\}\}$  (thus using several applications of Axiom 3.4). Thus for instance  $(1, 2)$  is the set  $\{\{1\}, \{1, 2\}\}$ ,  $(2, 1)$  is the set  $\{\{2\}, \{2, 1\}\}$ , and  $(1, 1)$  is the set  $\{1\}$ . Show that such a definition indeed obeys the property (3.5), and also whenever  $X$  and  $Y$  are sets, the Cartesian product  $X \times Y$  is also a set. Thus this definition can be validly used as a definition of an ordered pair. For an additional challenge, show that the alternate definition  $(x, y) := \{x, \{x, y\}\}$  also verifies (3.5) and is thus also an acceptable definition of ordered pair.

1. Show that  $(x, y) := \{\{x\}, \{x, y\}\}$  is a valid definition of an ordered pair.

*Proof.* First, we need to show that

$$(x, y) = (x', y') \iff (x = x' \text{ and } y = y').$$

Suppose  $(x, y) = (x', y')$ . Then by definition,  $\{\{x\}, \{x, y\}\} = \{\{x'\}, \{x', y'\}\}$ . If  $x = y$ ,  $\{\{x\}, \{x, y\}\} = \{\{x\}, \{x\}\} = \{\{x\}\}$ . Then  $\{\{x'\}, \{x', y'\}\}$  must also only contain one element. Thus,  $\{x'\} = \{x', y'\}$ . So  $x' = y'$ . Lastly, we have  $\{\{x\}\} = \{\{x'\}\}$ . So  $x = x'$ . Thus,  $x = x' = y = y'$ . It is the same thing if we assume  $x' = y'$  at first. Now consider the case  $x \neq y$ . Then  $\{x\}$  has one element and  $\{x, y\}$  has two elements. And since  $\{x'\}$  could only contain one element,

we have the following relations:

$$\begin{cases} \{x\} = \{x'\} \implies x = x' \\ \{x, y\} = \{x', y'\} \text{ and } x = x' \implies y = y'. \end{cases}$$

It would be the same if we assume  $x' \neq y'$ . Thus,  $(x, y) = (x', y') \implies (x = x' \text{ and } y = y')$

Suppose  $x = x'$  and  $y = y'$ . Then we must have  $\{x\} = \{x'\}$  and  $\{x, y\} = \{x', y'\}$ . Hence,  $\{\{x\}, \{x, y\}\} = \{\{x'\}, \{x', y'\}\}$ . Thus,  $(x = x' \text{ and } y = y') \implies (x, y) = (x', y')$ .

Therefore,  $(x, y) = (x', y') \iff (x = x' \text{ and } y = y')$ . This definition verifies (3.5).

Then, we need to show that whenever  $X$  and  $Y$  are sets, the Cartesian product  $X \times Y$  is a set. Use the definition above:  $(x, y) = \{\{x\}, \{x, y\}\}$ . The powerset of  $X \cup Y$  is  $\{0, \{x\}, \{y\}, \{x, y\}\}$  which contains the elements in  $(x, y)$ . Then the powerset of the powerset of  $X \cup Y$  contains  $(x, y)$ . The elements in  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(X \cup Y))$  is a set, thus, the Cartesian product is a set. More specifically,

$$X \times Y = \{z \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(X \cup Y)) : z \text{ contains exactly one singleton set and one pair set}\}.$$

□

2. Show that  $(x, y) = \{x, \{x, y\}\}$  is also a valid definition of an ordered pair.

*Proof.* We need to show that

$$\{x, \{x, y\}\} = \{x', \{x', y'\}\} \iff x = x' \text{ and } y = y'.$$

Suppose  $\{x, \{x, y\}\} = \{x', \{x', y'\}\}$ . Denote  $A = \{x, y\}$ ,  $B = \{x', y'\}$ . Then  $\{x, A\} = \{x', B\}$ . Since sets are objects,  $\{x, A\}$  and  $\{x', B\}$  are both pair sets. Since  $x \in \{x, \{x, y\}\}$  and  $x \in \{x, \{x, y\}\} \implies x \in \{x', \{x', y'\}\}$ . So either  $x = x'$  or  $x = \{x', y'\}$ . Assume  $x = \{x', y'\}$ . Then the only option left is  $x' = \{x, y\}$ . As  $x$  and  $x'$  are both sets, having  $x \in x'$  and  $x' \in x$  at the

same time violates the statements in Exercise 3.2.2. Therefore,  $x = x'$  and  $\{x, y\} = \{x', y'\} = \{x, y'\}$ . Thus,  $y = y'$ .

Suppose  $x = x'$  and  $y = y'$ . Then clearly we have  $\{x, y\} = \{x', y'\}$ . So  $\{x, \{x, y\}\} = \{x', \{x', y'\}\}$ .

Thus,  $(x, y) := \{x, \{x, y\}\}$  verifies (3.5).  $\square$

### Exercise 3.5.2

Suppose we define an ordered  $n$ -tuple to be a surjective function  $x : \{i \in \mathbb{N} : 1 \leq i \leq n\} \rightarrow X$  whose range is some arbitrary set  $X$  (so different ordered  $n$ -tuples are allowed to have different ranges); we then write  $x_i$  for  $x(i)$ , and also write  $x$  as  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ . Using this definition, verify that we have  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  if and only if  $x_i = y_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Also, show that if  $(X_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  is an ordered  $n$ -tuple of sets, then the Cartesian product, as defined in Definition 3.5.7, is indeed a set.

1.  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} \iff x_i = y_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

*Proof.* Apparently,  $x$  and  $y$  have the same domain  $\{i \in \mathbb{N} : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ . Suppose  $y : \{i \in \mathbb{N} : 1 \leq i \leq n\} \rightarrow Y$ .

Suppose  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ . Since  $x$  and  $y$  are two functions, we must have  $X=Y$  so that they have the same range. And by Definition 3.3.7, we have  $x(i) = y(i)$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Therefore,  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} \implies x_i = y_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

Suppose  $x_i = y_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Since  $x$  and  $y$  are both surjective and  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$ ,  $X = Y = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$ . Thus,  $x$  and  $y$  have the same range. And because they also have the same domain and  $x_i = y_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $x = y$ . Therefore, we have proved  $x_i = y_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n \implies x = y$ .

Thus,  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} \iff x_i = y_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .  $\square$

2. If  $(X_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  is an ordered  $n$ -tuple of sets, then the Cartesian product is a set.

*Proof.* Denote  $A = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$ , so every element of  $A$  is a set itself and by the union axiom we have  $\bigcup A$  being the set consists of all the elements of the elements of  $A$ . Denote  $I = \{i \in \mathbb{N} : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ . Then, the mapping function  $x$  would be partial functions with domain  $I$  which is also a subset of  $I$  and range being a subset of  $\bigcup A$ . Denote it as  $X$ . Thus, by Exercise 3.4.7, the collection of all these partial functions is a set. By Definition 3.5.7, the Cartesian product would be a subset of the set of all these partial functions. Let  $P(x)$  be  $x_i \in X_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . By Axiom of specification, there exists a set  $\{x \in X : P(x) \text{ is true}\}$  which is the same as the Cartesian product. Therefore, the Cartesian product is indeed a set.  $\square$

### Exercise 3.5.3

Show that the definitions of equality for ordered pair and ordered  $n$ -tuple obey the reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity axioms.

- reflexivity

*Proof.* For the ordered pair  $(x, y)$ , since  $x = x$  and  $y = y$ , we have  $(x, y) = (x, y)$ . For the ordered  $n$ -tuple  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ , since  $x_i = x_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , by definition, we have  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ .  $\square$

- symmetry

*Proof.* We want to show  $(x, y) = (x', y') \iff (x', y') = (x, y)$ . Assume  $(x, y) = (x', y')$ . Then  $x = x'$  and  $y = y'$ . By symmetry property of equality, we have  $x' = x$  and  $y' = y$ . By definition, we have  $(x', y') = (x, y)$ . Similarly, we can show that  $(x', y') = (x, y) \implies (x, y) = (x', y')$ . Thus,  $(x, y) = (x', y') \iff (x', y') = (x, y)$ .

For ordered  $n$ -tuple, we want to show that  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} \iff (y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ . Assume  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ . Then  $x_i = y_i$  for every  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . By the symmetry property of equality, we have  $y_i = x_i$  for every  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Therefore, by definition of ordered  $n$ -tuple, we have  $(y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ . The

approach is the same for the other way around. Thus,  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} \iff (y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ .  $\square$

- transitivity

*Proof.* The proof for ordered pair is omitted since it is only a special case of ordered  $n$ -tuple. We need to show that  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  and  $(y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (z_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} \implies (x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (z_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ . Since  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ , we have  $x_i = y_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Since  $(y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (z_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ , we have  $y_i = z_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . By transitivity property of equality, we have  $x_i = z_i$ . By definition of ordered  $n$ -tuple,  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} = (z_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ .  $\square$

### Exercise 3.5.4

Let  $A, B, C$  be sets. Show that  $A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$ , that  $A \times (B \cap C) = (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$ , and that  $A \times (B \setminus C) = (A \times B) \setminus (A \times C)$ .

1.  $A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$ .

*Proof.* We need to show that  $(x, y) \in A \times (B \cup C) \iff (x, y) \in (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$ .

Suppose  $(x, y) \in A \times (B \cup C)$ . By definition, we have  $x \in A$  and  $y \in (B \cup C)$ .  $y \in B \cup C \iff y \in B$  or  $y \in C$ . Therefore,  $(x, y) \in (A \times B)$  or  $(x, y) \in (A \times C)$ . Hence,  $(x, y) \in (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$ .

Suppose  $(x, y) \in (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$ . Then we have either  $(x, y) \in A \times B$  or  $(x, y) \in A \times C$ .  $(x, y) \in A \times B \implies x \in A$  and  $y \in B$ .  $(x, y) \in A \times C \implies x \in A$  and  $y \in C$ . Therefore, we have  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B \cup C$ . Hence,  $(x, y) \in A \times (B \cup C)$ .

Thus,  $A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$ .  $\square$

2.  $A \times (B \cap C) = (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$ .

*Proof.* We need to show that  $(x, y) \in A \times (B \cap C) \iff (x, y) \in (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$ .

Suppose  $(x, y) \in A \times (B \cap C)$ . Then  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B \cap C$ .  $y \in B \cap C \iff y \in B$  and  $y \in C$ . Then we have  $(x, y) \in A \times B$  and  $(x, y) \in A \times C$ . Hence,  $(x, y) \in (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$ .

Suppose  $(x, y) \in (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$ . Then  $(x, y) \in A \times B$  and  $(x, y) \in A \times C$ .  $(x, y) \in A \times B \implies x \in A$  and  $y \in B$ .  $(x, y) \in A \times C \implies x \in A$  and  $y \in C$ . Overall, we have  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B \cap C$ . Hence,  $(x, y) \in A \times (B \cap C)$ .

Thus,  $A \times (B \cap C) = (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$ .  $\square$

3.  $A \times (B \setminus C) = (A \times B) \setminus (A \times C)$ .

*Proof.* We need to show that  $(x, y) \in A \times (B \setminus C) \iff (x, y) \in (A \times B) \setminus (A \times C)$ .

Suppose  $(x, y) \in A \times (B \setminus C)$ . Then  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B$  and  $y \notin C$ .  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B \implies (x, y) \in A \times B$ .  $y \notin C \implies (x, y) \notin A \times C$ . Therefore,  $(x, y) \in (A \times B) \setminus (A \times C)$ .

Suppose  $(x, y) \in (A \times B) \setminus (A \times C)$ . Then  $(x, y) \in A \times B$  and  $(x, y) \notin A \times C$ .  $(x, y) \in A \times B \implies x \in A$  and  $y \in B$ .  $(x, y) \notin A \times C$  and  $x \in A \implies y \notin C$ . Therefore, we have  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B$  and  $y \notin C$ . Hence,  $(x, y) \in A \times (B \setminus C)$ .

Thus,  $A \times (B \setminus C) = (A \times B) \setminus (A \times C)$ .  $\square$

### Exercise 3.5.5

Let  $A, B, C, D$  be sets. Show that  $(A \times B) \cap (C \times D) = (A \cap C) \times (B \cap D)$ . Is it true that  $(A \times B) \cup (C \times D) = (A \cup C) \times (B \cup D)$ ? Is it true that  $(A \times B) \setminus (C \times D) = (A \setminus C) \times (B \setminus D)$ ?

*Proof.*  $(A \times B) \cap (C \times D) = (A \cap C) \times (B \cap D) \iff ((x, y) \in (A \times B) \cap (C \times D) \iff (x, y) \in (A \cap C) \times (B \cap D))$ . Suppose  $(x, y) \in (A \times B) \cap (C \times D)$ .  $(x, y) \in A \times B \implies x \in A$  and  $y \in B$ .  $(x, y) \in C \times D \implies x \in C$  and  $y \in D$ . Therefore, we have  $x \in A \cap C$  and  $y \in B \cap D$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in (A \cap C) \times (B \cap D)$ . Suppose  $(x, y) \in (A \cap C) \times (B \cap D)$ . Then  $x \in A \cap C$  and  $y \in B \cap D$ .  $x \in A \cap C \implies x \in A$

and  $x \in C$ .  $y \in B \cap D \implies y \in B$  and  $y \in D$ .  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B \implies (x, y) \in A \times B$ .  
 $x \in C$  and  $y \in D \implies (x, y) \in C \times D$ . Hence,  $(x, y) \in (A \times B) \cap (C \times D)$ . Thus,  
 $(A \times B) \cap (C \times D) = (A \cap C) \times (B \cap D)$ .

$(A \times B) \cup (C \times D) = (A \cup C) \times (B \cup D)$  is not true. Assume  $(x, y) \in (A \cup C) \times (B \cup D)$ .  
 And suppose  $x \in A$  and  $y \in D$ . Then  $(x, y) \in A \times D$  and  $(x, y) \notin A \times B$  and  $(x, y) \notin C \times D$ .  
 Hence,  $x \notin (A \times B) \cup (C \times D)$ . Thus,  $(A \times B) \cup (C \times D) \neq (A \cup C) \times (B \cup D)$   
 is not true.

$(A \times B) \setminus (C \times D) = (A \setminus C) \times (B \setminus D)$  is not true. A counterexample:  $x \in A \cap C$   
 and  $y \in B \setminus D$ . Then  $(x, y) \in (A \times B) \setminus (C \times D)$  but  $(x, y) \notin (A \setminus C) \times (B \setminus D)$ . Thus,  
 $(A \times B) \setminus (C \times D) \neq (A \setminus C) \times (B \setminus D)$  is not true.  $\square$

### Exercise 3.5.6

Let  $A, B, C, D$  be non-empty sets. Show that  $A \times B \subseteq C \times D$  if and only if  $A \subseteq C$  and  $B \subseteq D$ , and that  $A \times B = C \times D$  if and only if  $A = C$  and  $B = D$ . What happens if the hypotheses that the  $A, B, C, D$  are all non-empty are removed?

1.  $A \times B \subseteq C \times D \iff A \subseteq C$  and  $B \subseteq D$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $A \times B \subseteq C \times D$ , that is  $(x, y) \in A \times B \implies (x, y) \in C \times D$ .  
 Since  $A, B, C, D$  are non-empty, we have two conditions:  $x \in A \implies x \in C$   
 and  $y \in B \implies y \in D$ . Thus,  $A \subseteq C$  and  $B \subseteq D$ .

Suppose  $A \subseteq C$  and  $B \subseteq D$ . Then we have  $x \in A \implies x \in C$  and  $y \in B \implies y \in D$ .  
 Combining these two conditions,  $(x, y) \in A \times B \implies (x, y) \in C \times D$ .  
 Hence,  $A \times B \subseteq C \times D$ .

Thus,  $A \times B \subseteq C \times D \iff A \subseteq C$  and  $B \subseteq D$ .  $\square$

2.  $A \times B = C \times D \iff A = C$  and  $B = D$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $A \times B = C \times D$ . Then  $(x, y) \in A \times B \iff (x, y) \in C \times D$ . Since  
 $A, B, C, D$  are non-empty, we have  $x \in A \iff x \in C$  and  $y \in B \iff y \in D$ .  
 Therefore,  $A = C$  and  $B = D$ .



Suppose  $A = C$  and  $B = D$ . Then  $x \in A \iff x \in C$  and  $y \in B \iff y \in D$ . Therefore,  $(x, y) \in A \times B \iff (x, y) \in C \times D$ . Hence,  $A \times B = C \times D$ .

Thus,  $A \times B = C \times D \iff A = C$  and  $B = D$ .  $\square$

If the hypotheses that the  $A, B, C, D$  are all non-empty are removed, the equalities will not hold any more. A counterexample would be  $A$  is non-empty,  $B = \emptyset$ ,  $C = \emptyset$ , and  $D$  is non-empty.  $A \times B \subseteq C \times D$  but  $A$  is not a subset of  $C$ .  $A \times B = C \times D$  but  $A \neq C$ .

### Exercise 3.5.7

Let  $X, Y$  be sets, and let  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow X} : X \times Y \rightarrow X$  and  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow Y} : X \times Y \rightarrow Y$  be the maps  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow X}(x, y) := x$  and  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow Y}(x, y) := y$ ; these maps are known as the co-ordinate functions on  $X \times Y$ . Show that for any functions  $f : Z \rightarrow X$  and  $g : Z \rightarrow Y$ , there exists a unique function  $h : Z \rightarrow X \times Y$  such  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow X} \circ h = f$  and  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow Y} \circ h = g$ . This function  $h$  is known as the direct sum of  $f$  and  $g$  and is denoted  $h = f \oplus g$ .

*Proof.* First, prove the existence of  $h$ . Let  $h$  be  $h(z) := (f(z), g(z))$ . Then  $f$  and  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow X} \circ h$  both have domain  $Z$  and range  $X$ . And  $g$  and  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow Y} \circ h$  both have domain  $Z$  and range  $Y$ . Consider an arbitrary  $z \in Z$ .  $(\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow X} \circ h)(z) = \pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow X}(h(z)) = \pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow X}(f(z), g(z)) = f(z)$ ,  $(\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow Y} \circ h)(z) = \pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow Y}(h(z)) = \pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow Y}(f(z), g(z)) = g(z)$ . Thus, there exists a function  $h : Z \rightarrow X \times Y$  such that  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow X} \circ h = f$  and  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow Y} \circ h = g$ . Then, prove the uniqueness of  $h$ . Suppose there exists  $h' : Z \rightarrow X \times Y$  such that  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow X} \circ h' = f$  and  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow Y} \circ h' = g$ . Assume  $h'(z) = (f'(z), g'(z))$  where  $f' : Z \rightarrow X$  and  $g' : Z \rightarrow Y$ . Then  $h$  and  $h'$  both have domain  $Z$  and range  $X \times Y$ . Consider an arbitrary  $z \in Z$ , we have  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow X}(h'(z)) = f'(z) = f(z)$  and  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow Y}(h'(z)) = g'(z) = g(z)$ . Therefore,  $f' = f$  and  $g' = g$ . So  $h' = h$ . Hence, there exists a unique function  $h : Z \rightarrow X \times Y$  such  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow X} \circ h = f$  and  $\pi_{X \times Y \rightarrow Y} \circ h = g$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 3.5.8**

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be sets. Show that the Cartesian product  $\prod_{i=1}^n X_i$  is empty if and only if at least one of the  $X_i$  is empty.

*Proof.* We need to show that  $\prod_{i=1}^n X_i$  is empty  $\iff$  at least one of the  $X_i$  is empty.

Suppose  $\prod_{i=1}^n X_i$  is empty and assume each of  $X_i$  is non-empty. Then we can find an object  $x_i \in X_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Therefore, there exists  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} \in \prod_{i=1}^n X_i$ . Thus,  $\prod_{i=1}^n X_i$  is non-empty. Contradiction. Hence, at least one of the  $X_i$  is empty.

Suppose at least one of the  $X_i$  is empty. Assume  $X_i$  is empty for some  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Then there does not exist an object  $x_i$  such that  $x_i \in X_i$ . By definition of the Cartesian product, being an object of  $\prod_{i=1}^n X_i$  requires  $x_i \in X_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Thus, such a set of  $X_i$  can not fulfill the requirement. Hence,  $\prod_{i=1}^n X_i$  is empty.

Thus,  $\prod_{i=1}^n X_i$  is empty  $\iff$  at least one of the  $X_i$  is empty.  $\square$

**Exercise 3.5.9**

Suppose that  $I$  and  $J$  are two sets, and for all  $\alpha \in I$  let  $A_\alpha$  be a set, and for all  $\beta \in J$  let  $B_\beta$  be a set. Show that  $(\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha) \cap (\bigcup_{\beta \in J} B_\beta) = \bigcup_{(\alpha, \beta) \in I \times J} (A_\alpha \cap B_\beta)$ .

*Proof.* We need to show that  $x \in (\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha) \cap (\bigcup_{\beta \in J} B_\beta) \iff x \in \bigcup_{(\alpha, \beta) \in I \times J} (A_\alpha \cap B_\beta)$ .

Suppose  $x \in (\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha) \cap (\bigcup_{\beta \in J} B_\beta)$ . Then for some  $\alpha \in I$ ,  $x \in A_\alpha$ , and for some  $\beta \in J$ ,  $x \in B_\beta$ . By the definition of ordered pair, we have for some  $(\alpha, \beta) \in I \times J$ ,  $x \in A_\alpha \cap B_\beta$ . Hence,  $x \in \bigcup_{(\alpha, \beta) \in I \times J} (A_\alpha \cap B_\beta)$ .

Suppose  $x \in \bigcup_{(\alpha, \beta) \in I \times J} (A_\alpha \cap B_\beta)$ . Then for some  $(\alpha, \beta) \in I \times J$ ,  $x \in A_\alpha \cap B_\beta$ . By the definition of ordered pair, there exists some  $\alpha \in I$  such that  $x \in A_\alpha$  and some  $\beta \in J$  such that  $x \in B_\beta$ . Therefore,  $x \in (\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha) \cap (\bigcup_{\beta \in J} B_\beta)$ .

Thus,  $x \in (\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha) \cap (\bigcup_{\beta \in J} B_\beta) \iff x \in \bigcup_{(\alpha, \beta) \in I \times J} (A_\alpha \cap B_\beta)$ .  $\square$